

Thursday evening a messenger arrived with some dispatches of great importance at the Secretary of State's office from Lord Stormont at Paris, which occasioned the holding a Cabinet Council, which did not break up till near twelve o'clock.

Yesterday at two o'clock express came to — Adair, Esq; in Argyle-street, from Rome, with an account of his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester lying at the point of death. Mr. Adair immediately waited on his Majesty with the melancholy account. His Majesty expressed his desire for Mr. Adair and Dr. Jebb's setting out immediately for Rome to render his Royal Brother all the assistance in their power; in consequence of which they both set out for Rome last night.

Advice is received from Kinsale in Ireland, that two large American privateers had been seen, for several days, cruising about that coast, and that they had lately done a deal of mischief by taking several vessels that trade from one port to another with provisions, &c.

Mr. Jenkinson has formed a plan for a union of Ireland with Great-Britain, upon terms which are conceived to be perfectly agreeable to the interest of both kingdoms: it settles the affairs of the hereditary revenue in a manner not at all offensive to the Irish, Lord Buckinghamshire, it is said, will certainly carry it into the Irish parliament the next sessions.

Some of our ministers expect a war with France, while others of them are of a different opinion; both parties have their reasons. A very strong and spirited remonstrance has been sent to the court of France, relating to the encouragement the Americans receive in the ports of that kingdom, and the supplies shipped from France to America. This remonstrance is couched in terms so strong and decisive, that many of the members of administration think France will take it for a declaration of war; but others are confident they will give up the Americans publicly, yet still continue to supply them through the merchants.

It is now evidently in vain to expect any good from French promises. Complaints and remonstrances are all in vain; the French have, with their usual mean duplicity, sported too long with the easy credulity of this nation. To delay an hour is to shut our eyes against the clearest conviction. Whatever the French may promise, they will still continue to lend secret aid to the American cause. Let war be declared against France for what has been already done. It is altogether unworthy the dignity of the nation to be amused an hour longer.

Orders are sent to the Governors of Jersey and Guernsey, for all the fortifications of the said islands to be put in a proper state of defence.

#### WILLIAMSBURG, Nov. 14.

Extract of a letter from our Delegates in CONGRESS, dated YORK-TOWN, October 31, 1777.

WE have the honour and the pleasure to enclose you a copy of the capitulation, by which General Burgoyne and his army surrendered themselves prisoners of war. This great affair might have been still greater, if the near approach of Sir Henry Clinton to Albany (where our military and provision stores were lodged) had not rendered despatch necessary with Gen. Burgoyne's army. Two thousand brave men, under General Stark, are gone to Ticonderoga, and Gen. Gates, with the main body of his army, is moving down the North river, to meet Gen. Vaughn, who yet remains about 50 miles below Albany. Two brigades, with light corps under Col. Morgan, are on their way to join General Washington. Nothing that we know of hath happened near Philadelphia since the enemy's unsuccessful attack on Red Bank and Fort Mifflin, in which two of their ships of war were lost, and Count Donop, with some inferior officers and 70 privates, made prisoners."

List of prisoners and ordnance stores, &c. by return of the Deputy Adjutant General.

2139 British rank and file; 2022 German ditto; 830 Canadian ditto; 4991 rank and file; 1 Lieut. General; 2 Major Generals; 3 Brigadier Generals; 6 Lieutenant Colonels; 12 Majors; 76 Captains; 133 Lieutenants; 41 Ensigns; 8 Chaplains; 6 Adjutants; 7 Quarter Masters; 14 Surgeons; 13 Mates; 5 Judge Advocates; 356 Sergeants; 189 drums and fifes.

Lieutenant General Burgoyne, member of Parliament; Major General Phillips, ditto; Lord Peterham, ditto; Lord Balcaras, ditto; Major Auckland, ditto; Brigadier General Hamilton; Major Gen. Ridesel; Brigadier Gall; Brigadier Spechtz.

Two 24 pounder; four 12 ditto; eighteen 6 ditto; four 3 ditto; five Royals and two 8 inch howitzers, in all 35 pieces of brass ordnance with implements and stores complete for the pieces, 5000 stand of arms, and a great quantity of musket cartridges, and a number of ammunition waggons, travelling forges, &c. &c.

Extract of a letter from a member of Congress, dated YORK-TOWN, November 5, 1777.

CLINTON's progress up the North river rendered despatch necessary with Burgoyne, and prevented our success from being so brilliant as it would otherwise have been; but as it is, it

is very great. Gen. Vaughn yet remains with Clinton's force at Fort Montgomery, in the highlands, on Hudson's river, and Gates is ordered immediately to dispose of him; 2500 men are detached to reinforce Gen. Washington from the northern army, and Morgan's excellent corps of light infantry is by this time near Germantown. A report is just come to town that we have retaken Rhode Island; that 1500 prisoners have fallen into our hands; also that the Eagle man of war of 64 guns, was run ashore in a late attack on Fort Island; that the enemy set her on fire, that our people extinguished the flames, and got the ship up to the fort. These accounts want confirmation, although they come pretty straight to this place. I hope I shall be able to confirm them by next post. The late heavy rains have carried Howe's bridge away that he had built with much pains over the Schuylkill, and removed it quite down to our fort in the Delaware, and the enemy's batteries on Province Island are greatly damaged. When Col. Hazlewood, who commands the fleet of galleys in the Delaware, was summoned to surrender to the enemy, he answered, I know you are brave, and shall endeavour to merit your esteem by a gallant defence; I will not surrender while I have one galley left. Thus this muskito fleet, as our enemies tauntingly call the galleys, is likely to prove an insuperable bar to their larger fleet of heavy ships.

P. S. Since writing the above, the account of Rhode Island being taken grows stronger; and it is certain that Gen. Vaughn with his force, is returned to New-York, after destroying the forts and barracks they had taken on North river. Great distress for provisions in Philadelphia, and growing greater, as the enemy have little communication with their ships, and none with the country.

#### IN CONGRESS, November 1, 1777.

FOR as much as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending Providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with gratitude their obligation to him for benefits received, and to implore such further blessings as they stand in need of: And it having pleased him, in his abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of his common providence, but also to smile upon us in the prosecution of a just and necessary war, for the defence and establishment of our unalienable rights and liberties; particularly in that he hath been pleased, in so great a measure, to prosper the means used for the support of our troops, and to crown our arms with most signal success.

It is therefore recommended to the legislative and executive powers of these United States, to set apart Thursday the 18th day of December next for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE; that at one time and with one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their Divine Benefactor; and that, together with their sincere acknowledgements and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favour, and their humble and earnest supplication, that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance; that it may please him graciously to afford his blessing on the governments of these States respectively, and prosper the public councils of the whole; to inspire our commanders both by land and sea, and all under them with that wisdom and fortitude, which may render them fit instruments, under the providence of Almighty God, to secure for these United States the greatest of all human blessings, independence and peace: That it may please him to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labour of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield its increase; to take schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue, and piety, under his nurturing hand, and to prosper the means of religion for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom, which consisteth "in righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

And it is further recommended, that servile labour and such recreation as, though at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this appointment, may be omitted on so solemn an occasion.

Extract from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'y.

#### Intelligence from RED-BANK.

Red-Bank, October 23d, 1777.

May it please your Excellency, THIS will acquaint your Excellency, that early this morning, we carried all our galleys to action, and after a long and heavy firing we drove the enemy's ships down the river, except a 64 gun ship, and a small frigate, which we obliged them to quit, as they got on shore, and by accident the 64 gun ship blew up, and the frigate they set on fire themselves, took the people all out and quitted them. Our action lasted till twelve o'clock, and our fleet has received but very little damage. You will be informed of the glorious event of last night by Col